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USSR Report

POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

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29 February 1984

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INTERNATIONAL

U.S. BORDER POLICY LINKED TO MEXICAN FOREIGN POLICY

Moscow APN DAILY REVIEW in English 10 Jan 84 pp 1-2

[Article by I. Golembiovsky under the rubric "Report From Mexico": "The Border in the North"]

[Text] In the 70s, there were 14 million people of Mexico descent living in the USA. They were mostly descendants of those who remained in their places after the United States seized in a bandit-like way in the middle of last century more than half of Mexico's territory, now occupied by the American states of California, Texas, New Mexico and others. Towards the early 80s the number of Mexicans in the USA, together with illegal arrivals, passed the 20 million mark. The reasons for that growth lie in a gap between the rates of industrial development and the population explosion in Mexico. In the last twenty years alone Mexico's population has almost doubled. Each year sees about 600,000 men entering the job market, more than half of whom are unable to get permanent employment in the country and many having to seek it across the border.

This process is being described in the USA as a sort of charitable deed. But that is a lie pure and simple. Actually, everything is much simpler--operating here is the buy and sell law, the fundamental law of capitalism. American farmers and entrepreneurs, by hiring Mexicans, buy manpower dirt cheap. The following fact is recognised by all: Mexicans get less than half of an American's wage. They are treated as if they were slaves. Rich America is interested in cheap labour and is waxing richer still by employing it.

Immigrants can be treated off-handedly, since a person with an illegal status is defenceless against any violence. The worst job for the lowest pay, constant fear of the boss, the landlord, every policeman--that is his lot.

The American state itself has a hand in profiting from the exploitation of Mexican immigrants. Richard Minez and Leo Chavez, of the University of California research centre, say that Mexicans in illegal condition are profitable to the US government, because, paying in full their taxes and social insurance contributions, they have no right either to an unemployment benefit or an old-age pension.

Washington is trying to cash in on that problem also politically, making it into an instrument of pressure against Mexico. As soon as the government of the neighbouring country takes its own steps in the international arena in pursuance of the principles of its peaceful policy, a persecution campaign immediately flares up, as if on command, against Mexican immigrants. The border then turns into hell, with men hunted down as though they were wild beasts. Over the last four years alone, US border patrols have killed 50 Mexicans... The border which American official representatives speak of only as a symbol of good-neighbourliness, turns into a deathly front-line.

The more than 3,000 kilometres of border divide not only two states, they also divide, figuratively speaking, two worlds, very far removed despite their geographical proximity; irreconcilable in spite of the similarity of their socio-political systems; confronting each other, contrary to US official assurances about good-neighbourly sentiments. History, traditions, interests, characters and temperaments form a yawning chasm between them. This border divides the continent into two parts: the USA, on the one hand, and Latin America, on the other.

(IZVESTIA, January 7. Abridged.)

CSO: 1812/110

INTERNATIONAL

BAKU ON MIDDLE EAST TENSION, SOVIET POLICY

GF061856 Baku International Service in Azeri 1300 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Nugur Polatli commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners: It is common knowledge that tension is escalating in the Middle East in general and in Lebanon in particular. Violent exchanges of fire have been continuing in the southern and eastern sectors of Beirut and close to the capital of mountainous Lebanon since Thursday. Armed Shi'ite groups and the military forces of Lebanon are closely involved in these exchanges. Meanwhile, the warships of the U.S. 6th Fleet, which have surrounded the shores of Lebanon, have opened fire on the Druze areas a number of times. People have been killed and wounded.

The following question comes into mind in the light of this state of affairs: What can be done to stop the dangerous trend of developments in the Middle East?

Last week, many of the political observers noted the following: Aborting the hegemonist and occupationist plans of the strategic sphere set up by Washington and Tel Aviv can only be possible through a unity to be established between Syria, the national and patriotic forces in Lebanon, and the PLO and through a united move by the Arabs--including the consolidation of relations between the Arab peoples and their already proven loyal friend, the Soviet Union. Political observers have also noted that the occupationist Israeli troops must pull out of Lebanon in accordance with the 508 and 509 resolutions of the UN Security Council. This would mean the abrogation of the Lebanon-Israeli servitude agreement signed on 17 May 1983. It would completely comply with the resolution of the conference held on Lebanon for national reconciliation.

As for the Soviet Union, our country does not regard the question of Lebanon as isolated from matters related to the Middle East. The Soviet Union supports a just and consolidated peace in the region. This can only be achieved by the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab lands which have been occupied since 1967, the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including the right enabling them to set up their own state, and establishing conditions of security for all the countries in the Middle East for guaranteeing their independent development.

CSO: 1831/119

INTERNATIONAL

SOVIET INTERNATIONAL LAW ASSOCIATION ISSUES STATEMENT ON EUROMISSILES

Moscow APN DAILY REVIEW in English 3 Feb 84 p 1

[Unattributed item under the rubric "Soviet Public Opinion": "In Defiance of International Law"]

[Text] The United States actions in deploying medium-range missiles in Western Europe should be qualified from the view of international law as contradicting the United Nations Charter and threatening peace. This was noted at a regular annual meeting of the Soviet association of international law in Moscow. Its participants have adopted a statement.

The principle of the non-threat and non-use of force, says the document, is a central one in present-day international law and on its observance depends above all peace on earth. The policy of anti-communism and confrontation with socialist states conducted by the USA, its striving to achieve military superiority, specifically the deployment of US missiles in Western Europe, close to the borders with the Soviet Union, are gross violation of this principle.

(PRAVDA, Feb. 3. In full.)

CSO: 1812/116

INTERNATIONAL

FOREIGN CREDITORS IMPEDE LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIES

Moscow APN DAILY REVIEW in English 19 Jan 84 pp 1-3

[Article by N. Ognev, PRAVDA staff correspondent: "Debt Trap"]

[Text] Latin America bears the brunt of the Third World's external indebtedness. Of the developing countries' aggregate debt put at 680,000 million dollars by the UN Economic Commission for Latin America, at the end of December 1982 Latin America was responsible for 300,000 million dollars. By November 1983 Latin America's debt soared to 350,000 million dollars through, in particular, inordinately high interest rates.

External indebtedness has its roots in history. Supplies of raw materials first to Spain and more recently to the United States, in the past decade the countries of Latin America tried to embark upon independent economic development. Lacking modern technology and money, they have to rely heavily on external financing which rapidly increased their debt to the developed capitalist nations.

The case at hand is Mexico. In 1913-1941 the country did not take loans and fully returned its foreign debt. Mexico's foreign debt began to grow rapidly in the 1970s, when the country started an economic development programme. Its foreign debt has grown from 3,000 million dollars in 1970 to almost 85,000 million dollars nowadays.

A number of Latin American countries, having registered some advances in industrialisation, have failed to reach economic freedom.

Today Mexico numbers 6,129 enterprises with the participation of foreign capital. According to the economics institute of Mexico's national autonomous university, foreign investors account for over 50 per cent of the assets of more than half of these enterprises. By opening the frontier to foreign technology and capital, the Mexicans failed to establish control over industrialisation. As a result, leadership went to consumer goods industries and those handling semi-finished imports, mostly to US-owned assembly plants.

Meeting their interests only partially, the strategy of development chosen by Latin American countries has tremendously increased their foreign debt.

The aggregate debt of Brazil, Mexico and Argentina exceeds 200,000 million dollars. Brazil's foreign debt stands at over 90,000 million dollars. Venezuela owes 32,000 million dollars to its foreign creditors, Chile 18,000 million dollars, and Peru 12,000 million dollars. The position of other Latin American countries is not much better.

The dramatic dimensions of debt-servicing payments underscore the gravity of the situation. Thus, in 1982 the developing countries spent 130,000 million dollars on debt-servicing, including 60,000 million to 65,000 million dollars on interest rates.

Creditors are toughening their terms in response to attempts by the nations of Latin America to become more independent economically. Since the second half of the 1970s these countries have been supplied mostly with commercial loans which are given for shorter periods and at higher interest rates than government loans.

Resorting to exorbitant interest rates, the United States is tightening the financial noose around the neck of its Latin American debtors.

As a result of this policy of impudent plunder, Peru, Jamaica and Costa Rica have declared themselves insolvent. Other countries, particularly Mexico, Argentina, Bolivia and Ecuador, constantly beg creditors to reschedule their debts.

Washington does not intend to spare its southern neighbours. The United States has repeatedly vetoed the proposal of member-countries of the Organisation of American States to discuss the foreign debt of Latin America.

Marshal Wright, Vice President of Eaton Corp., who was adviser to Presidents Johnson and Nixon, stated in the WALL STREET JOURNAL that the only way out for the developing countries to emerge from the current financial crisis was to curb economic growth and part with the illusion that the United States would continue to supply them with money and buy their goods.

It is unlikely that the Latin Americans will put up with such prospect.

Mexico-City, January

(PRAVDA, January 19. Abridged.)

CSO: 1812/109

INTERNATIONAL

CONTINUING HISTORY OF NATO ATTEMPTS TO INDUCE SWEDEN TO JOIN ALLEGED

Moscow APN DAILY REVIEW in English 26 Jan 84 pp 1-2

[Article by IZVESTIYA special correspondents M. Zubko and N. Ivanov:
"Content of Secret Document"]

[Text] Stockholm--The NATO headquarters tried many times to push Sweden from the position of non-participation in military alliances, which is how Sweden's policy of neutrality is described. On January 24 the press of Stockholm cited another convincing example of this pressure.

The newspapers TEMPUS and EXPRESSEN appearing in Stockholm published a summary of a secret document which clearly shows that back in the fifties the North Atlantic bloc was exerting efforts to draw neutral Sweden in NATO. This refers to a transcript of a conversation between Norway's Foreign Minister Jens Christian Hauge and his Danish counterpart Harald Petersen that took place in Oslo on January 7, 1951.

They discussed, in particular, who was to become NATO commander in the Northern zone in Europe if Sweden was drawn in the Atlantic bloc. Norwegians were in favour of that post being assumed by an American General while the Danish side doubted the expediency of that.

In conditions of differences, the document says, senior partners in NATO--the United States and Great Britain--declared that Sweden's representatives should become NATO Supreme Commander in the Northern zone of Europe. Naturally that decision implied that Sweden would lose its neutrality and NATO's northern flank would be expanded to Swedish territory.

This case is quite indicative. And this is not a single case. In the subsequent years, pressure was exerted on Sweden to erode its neutrality. And now, too, attempts are being made to push Sweden off the consistent course of neutrality, to make it serve the needs of NATO and the USA. This pressure is not only external. In Sweden itself there are forces that are interested in the widening of the contacts with NATO. This refers, specifically, to the military-industrial complex, which is not only morally but also materially interested in the widening of such ties.

Quite possibly the numerous cases with the violation of Swedish territorial waters by mysterious submarines of which the local press invariably and groundlessly accuses the Soviet Union are also the work of pro-NATO and NATO circles. The Soviet Union proclaimed many times its respect for Sweden's neutrality. Soviet submarines never violated intentionally water boundaries of that country. Meanwhile NATO forces with the use of such anti-Soviet campaigns are striving to sow mistrust for the policy of the Soviet Union and on the basis of that mistrust to seek the change of Sweden's neutral course, to push Sweden toward NATO.

(IZVESTIA, Jan. 25. In full.)

CSO: 1812/116

NATIONAL

FARM EXPERTS DISCUSS DIFFICULTIES IN WORK OF RAPO

RAPO Council Member Cites Progress

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Dec 83 p 2

[Two letters and editorial comment: "Meeting Half-Way"]

[Text] We Expected More

[Letter by M. Alekseyev, chairman of the Krasnoye znamya Kolkhoz, Pristenskiy Rayon, Kursk Oblast]

It has already been a year since yet another important concern was added to my duties as a kolkhoz chairman; I became a member of the rayon agro-industrial association council.

We have considerable hopes for RAPO. Finally, it seemed, we would establish order on the land, adjust intersectorial links, and make sure that partners on an equal footing with us were answerable for the harvest. Many of our farms are unprofitable. Since the beginning of the five-year plan we have incurred debts to the state of 40,000 tons of grain, 367,000 tons of sugar beets, and a large quantity of milk and meat. That, unfortunately, is the "contribution" of our kolkhoz. And the outgoing year has brought few changes.

In accordance with the decisions of the May 1982 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, favorable opportunities were created in the countryside for steady development of the economy. But we could not, it appears, take advantage of them. Every economic manager, most likely, will find his own excuses and reasons. But many of them are the same. We utilize land, capital, and equipment poorly. Our RAPO was unable to noticeably influence the state of things. But did they try? It seems they were not idle.

I remember, these problems were the subject of one of the first meetings of the council. The discussion turned out to be stormy. People noted the low level of economic work at farms and serious shortcomings tolerated by the rayon Sel'khoztekhnika, the rayon Sel'khozhimiya, and the dairy plant. The zonal system of cultivation and crop rotation is not being incorporated. The resolution stated "Obligate", "Take urgent measures," and "Increase sharply." The words are strong, but what is behind them?

Recently two of our best machine operators, A. Makeyev and Yu. Cutorov, appealed to me. "Explan," they said, "chairman, can't RAPO perhaps influence Sel'khoztekhnika? As usual, machines are being manufactured any old way. An engine was brought from 'kapitalka' [possible "capital repair system"] -- it didn't work for a week and we had to send it back. It'd be better to give the spare parts to the kolkhoz and we'd fix it ourselves. But, as before, the rayon Sel'khoztekhnika is exclusively in charge of parts and does not provide them for the kolkhoz."

And the expensiveness of services? Discussions about that set teeth on edge. We expected that RAPO would revise prices and tariffs. No, everything remained the same as before. For the time being our partners think mostly of their own welfare. At the same time they often do not make what kolkhozes and sovkhozes primarily need; they proceed from their own departmental interests. Suppose agricultural chemical workers only bring organic material to the field. They are piling up ton-kilometers for the plan. As for application, they say -- do it yourselves. The fundamental difficulties for farms lie precisely in these circumstances: the necessary equipment is lacking. After the rayon Sel'khozhimiya was created, equipment has almost never come to the kolkhozes.

Why is the RAPO council proving to be impotent? Party and government documents have been adopted, among them the decree to improve economic relations of agriculture with other sectors. It would seem that RAPO has adequate rights.

Of course, thanks to state aid, the financial condition of many kolkhozes and sovkhozes has substantially improved. But the increasing opportunities must be skillfully handled. Meanwhile some economists have only a dim idea of what profit, prime cost, and profitability are. How then will they manage capital and how will they help our enterprises eliminate breakdowns?

This is where we need responsibility, high standards, and assistance from association specialists, especially in the economic office. But alas! They never have time to go to kolkhozes, brigades, and livestock units. Why? In my opinion Yu. Nazarenko, first secretary of Sudzhanskiy CPSU Raykom, gave quite a convincing answer to this question when he spoke recently at the oblast party conference. Since the beginning of the year, 480 orders, decisions, and decrees from higher organs have arrived at their RAPO. This is much more than last year. We have the same picture. In its turn almost every day the kolkhoz receives directives from the RAPO. About wintering livestock preparation of seeds, and rodent control. Or they demand a report on measures to incorporate a system of managing animal husbandry. Sixty-nine tables have to be filled out. How much time is necessary for this! And the main thing, does that labor have practical significance and will it be read? Nor has excessive supervision been eliminated. For example, try to send a culled cow to the meat combine. Seven signatures and stamps have to be collected in the rayon and the oblast.

An agro-industrial association does not gain authority by such methods. And how could it win respect, when our RAPO has not yet solved even one problem.

Every time I go to a meeting of the association council I wonder: Is it possible that we, members of the council, are to blame for something? I would like to find out how other people are putting the matter right.

It Depends On Us

[Letter by V. Levykin, Chairman of the Efremovskiy Rayon Agro-Industrial Association council. Tula Oblast.]

I did not think that the first steps of RAPO would be so difficult. Hundreds of questions -- diverse ones, at times unexpected ones . . . Since the very beginning, the council, whose members include managers of farms and enterprises serving the countryside, resolved not to get mired in everyday routine nor spend time on excessive supervision, but to direct efforts to key problems. As they say, a lot of them had piled up.

For example, the chairman of the Druzhba Kolkhoz N. Kondakov arrives.

"When will they stop doing us out of our share? Let's stand up at last!"

The farm is a lagging one. It has people and they try to work, but their base is rather weak. Year after year specialized vegetable producing and cattle sovkhozes have received the lion's share of the equipment and fertilizers through their trusts. Farms subordinated to the rayon are left with crumbs.

The RAPO council decided to allocate funds in a different way. The economic office made its calculations more and more meticulously. Supply plans were corrected. Druzhba received more equipment and fertilizers. And, what is no less important, they were given the capital to build 10 buildings with two apartments each. Throughout the rayon on the whole resources in the amount of 2.5 million rubles were redistributed: one-tenth of the machines and fertilizer, and a third of construction investments. Primarily into housing. Because of this in the Druzhba, imeni Lenin, and imeni Michurin kolkhozes and the Ozerki Sovkhoz alone 70 well-appointed apartments will be turned over this year.

In general, from the first day of the council's operation economic questions have become dominant. These include increasing the yield from the land, increasing funds, introducing cost-accounting and the collective contract, and converting to progressive technology. And, of course, interrelations with partners. It was precisely this problem which turned out to be the most crucial and complex. At first, I remember many people asked:

"But what can the RAPO do? Every partner has its own department, its own plan, and its own interest."

Now I have every reason to answer: it can do a great deal. The RAPO council, and this is outlined in the statute concerning it, is an organ of state administration. We have tried to utilize the rights granted to it. We examined fees for partner's services. Sel'khoztekhnika's overhead expenses for repair and servicing were reduced by 22 percent. Parts repair in its workshops and some Sel'khozhimiya services became cheaper. The result was that the farm's expenditures were substantially reduced.

We have also utilized the right to adjust partners' plans. For Sel'khozhimiya we increased the volume of liming of lands -- it has the capacities.

We planned for Sel'khoztekhnika to haul 42,000 tons of fertilizer -- they brushed it off, preferring profitable hauling for the city.

We also reexamined the plans for repair. Formerly they "descended" from above -- based on the "fact" of the previous year plus some increase. From there the notorious "compulsory repair" appeared. It remained for the farm to either send whole machines to Sel'khoztekhnika for spare parts or obtain the parts and fill out fictitious orders for Sel'khoztekhnika, for work supposedly performed by it.

We began to bring the spare parts to the machines, as much as possible. The Yefremovskiy, imeni 50-letiya SSSR and Mezhdurech'ye, imeni Krasin sovkhozes are replacing parts, assemblies, and aggregates locally. The number of capital repairs of machines has been decreased by another 15 percent in the plan for next year. We are building technical servicing centers and equipping workshops at farms.

We have begun improving the incentive system also. The final accounting with specialists in land improvement, Sel'khozhimiya, and Sel'khoztekhnika is envisaged by decrees of the party and of the government according to the year's results: for growth in output production at farms. We will also figure out the annual bonus based on these indicators. Preliminary calculations show that certain employees' bonuses will amount to four months' wages.

We have also managed to get procurement workers closer to the needs of the countryside. There are two elevators in the rayon. They have a large drying capacity. But how many difficulties there are when, because of bad weather, grain gets damp. The elevators do not accept it. But kolkhozes and sovkhozes have no dryers, or low-capacity ones not equipped with control-measuring devices. The RAPO council has obliged procurement workers to accept grain without a moisture restriction. In the last harvest, approximately 10,000 tons of grain -- 11 percent of the total, was dried by partners. Part of it was brought here from the fields without unnecessary loading and unloading at threshing floors. Means were substantially economized and the harvest was sped up.

Centralized funds are an important lever in the hands of the RAPO council. This year they reached 220,000 rubles and next year they should exceed a half million rubles. Through them we are beginning to build projects -- production and social -- which are important to us: a shop for manufacturing whole-milk substitute, intersectorial centers for storing fertilizers, and preventive medicine offices in rural areas.

But these are only the first steps of the RAPO. Many things have not yet been done. Let us take those very centralized funds. V. Irkhin, the director of a butter and cheese combine, for example, would have transferred capital to us. But higher organs of the Ministry of Meat and Dairy Industry system were against it. As were the consumer-cooperatives and workers in the food industry. They stubbornly refuse to see the overall benefit. After all, the effect with centralized funds is much greater than when they are used for particular departments.

A. Korkunov, manager of the rayon Sel'khoztekhnika, is going to meet farms halfway. He has agreed to reduce the capital repairs plan, but all Sel'khoztekhnika echelons are against it, from the oblast to the USSR level. Many departments are hindering the work of agro-industrial associations.

We are also not satisfied with the situation with construction. Several organizations in the rayon deal with it. Resources are divided; there are constant disagreements and discord. In our opinion the situation would be normalized if a single client office were created at the RAPO.

The association's first steps revealed serious flaws in the economic work of our administrative apparatus and of farm specialists. We have not yet penetrated to many deep-seated problems -- both in strictly rural matters and in relations with partners. We must work more on cost accounting and the contract. We must exploit state aid to low-profitability farms better and more fully, and bring them up to the level of the leaders more quickly. But the beginnings of truly new ways are already visible. I go to visit collectives which I am used to considering as lagging, and I feel that the situation is different now. People are showing confidence in their efforts and the mood has improved.

Economic indicators are substantially higher compared to past years. The harvest has been quite good throughout the rayon -- 22.8 centners per hectare. Sixty thousand tons of grain has been sold to the state, 17,000 tons of which are in payment of last year's debts. For the first time in recent years the plan for sale of sugar beets was fulfilled. Annual assignments for procurement of milk, meat, eggs, wool, and fruits were successfully completed. According to preliminary data, kolkhozes and sovkhozes will receive 15 million rubles in profits, three times more than last year.

Of course, economic measures adopted by the party and government in the light of resolutions of the May 1982 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee had an effect. Through increases in prices of output alone the rayon's farms received 5.7 million rubles. The weather also contributed. But the RAPO deserves credit in this also. Implementation of the resolutions of its council helped lower farms' expenses and increase output production. But still I repeat, this is only the beginning.

FROM THE EDITORS: So, we have two letters about how rayon agro-industrial associations are working. From the facts presented by the authors, it is obvious that the situation in RAPO's is taking shape differently, although conditions created by them are the same. What then does success depend upon? On the initiative, activism, and effectiveness of the council specialists and association managers and their ability to exercise the rights and powers granted to them, asserts V. Levykin.

Nonetheless he and M. Alekseyev complain that not everything is going well, not everything has been straightened out organizationally and economically in relations with partners. And the associations have not managed to penetrate to each farm, its concerns, and problems

in the first year of their activity. Many mistakes are linked to the inadequate training of personnel for work under the new conditions. But as the authors observe, certain causes of lack of coordination are found beyond the limits of the rayon link of the agro-industrial complex.

We invite readers to continue the conversation that has been started.

Farm Economist Outlines RAPO Failings

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Dec 83 p 2

[Article by I. Fedorenko, chief economist of the Leninskiy Sovkhoz in Kaskelenskiy Rayon, Alma-Ata Oblast: "A Rayon Agro-Industrial Matter -- Where Authority Needs to Be Applied"]

[Text] I have worked as sovkhoz chief economist for almost a quarter of a century. Everything related to agriculture is dear and close to me. I read with particular interest the letter in PRAVDA from M. Alekseyev, chairman of the Kursk Krasnoe Znamya Kolkhoz, and V. Levykin, chairman of the Efremovskiy RAPO [Rayon Agro-Industrial Association] council in Tula Oblast. We are also disturbed by the questions: what has changed with the creation of agro-industrial associations, and how do they help raise production and the economy?

I will take my sovkhoz -- one of the largest in southern Kazakhstan. We supply the city with vegetables, fruit, and milk. There have been substantial improvements in recent years. We receive 340 centners of green crops from each hectare, rather than the 200 centners we used to receive. Milk yield from cows has increased from 2,500 to 3,500 kilograms. Yearly profit has reached an average of half a million rubles. And yet, frankly speaking, we are not taking full advantage of the opportunities. We are trying to improve work. But in many cases RAPO assistance is needed. Do we obtain this aid? In some things -- yes.

I will begin with the fact that specialists from the association help us introduce industrial technology for the production of vegetables, and select the necessary machines. Thanks to that we have been able to raise vegetable cultivation productivity by a third. Fewer townspeople were recruited for harvesting, losses were reduced, and output quality increased.

We grow 800 hectares worth of vegetables -- more than any other farm in the oblast. Such an area cannot be handled without chemical weed control. Taking this into account RAPO assigned most of the equipment the rayon Sel'khozkhimiya office had at its disposal to our sovkhoz. We managed to treat crops with herbicides over almost the whole area. Mineral and organic fertilizers were utilized more efficiently.

Till this year, Sel'khozkhimiya often sent its trucks out on secondary runs outside the boundaries of the rayon, pursuing "volume." The RAPO council cut its transport work unrelated to agriculture by one-half. It also reduced the fees for services. All farms felt the benefit resulting from these measures immediately.

The association also rendered some assistance in introducing the collective contract by developing methods and giving advice. Unregulated mechanized brigades and links for raising onions and silage corn were established at the sovkhoz. They had the best results. For example, link leader Shakhmurat Bashirov obtained more than 700 centners of bulk greens from each of 60 hectares this year.

In short, we are feeling the influence of the new management organ on the farm's economy. But, unfortunately, not always and not in everything. M. Alekseyev, the chairman of the Kursk Krasnoe Znamya Kolkhoz, spoke out sharply against RAPO for not changing its attitude toward its chief partner -- Sel'khoztekhnika. I have reason to write the same thing. I have before me a recent document: within the course of a month the farm paid approximately 3,000 rubles for technical maintenance and repair of machines and equipment at livestock units. But neither the maintenance nor the repair should be considered done: Sel'khoztekhnika gave only spare parts and materials, and we had to sign the documents for supposedly completed work, although part of it was done by our mechanics.

The conclusion usually drawn from such cases is that service on the part of Sel'khoztekhnika must be improved. Our RAPO drew this conclusion also. But why not study the problems more deeply, taking actual conditions into account? Perhaps the plan for service and repair through the efforts of the rayon organization is too great and for this reason the organization tries to "fulfill" it by false reports.

Or take capital repair. The sovkhoz is well-equipped with workshops and the number of machine operators is adequate. They are perfectly able to set up equipment themselves. But we are compelled to ship tractors to Uzunagach, which is 40 miles away. Repair work done there is poor. They discussed this problem to a certain extent at a meeting of the sovkhoz's economic analysis bureau. They figured out that if we were given the necessary spare parts and materials, repairs would be one-third cheaper.

It is not difficult to understand how important these problems are. After all, the situation that has developed undermined both cost accounting and the contract. Methodological manuals would be helpful to us, but without solving the problems, which equipment work (and in the final analysis, the harvest, yield, production, and prime cost of output) depends upon, these manuals are not worth much.

Of course, in order to develop and introduce optimal economic variants RAPO is permitted the right to examine plans of partner organizations. And it is a pity that this is not taken advantage of in our rayon.

Naturally, seeing this situation of the association and of its council, other partners do not take our economy into account much either. Take Sel'khozenergo [possibly Agricultural Energy Supply System]. The cost of its services is growing and the benefits from them are small. At the height of the field campaign farmers are busy from morning till night and representatives of Goskomsel'khoztekhnika, Sel'khozhimiya, and other subdivisions of the agro-industrial complex work "by the book" with two days off a week.

Every year we are allocated capital to strengthen the production base and rebuild old and construct new facilities. But we have not as yet found the people to build these things quickly and on schedule. A large livestock producing complex has been under construction since 1977. Within that time half the investment has not even been incorporated. The need for it is enormous: calves are kept outside -- and because of this, weight-gain is low and there are deaths. For many years we have posed the question of setting up a mechanized chemicalization point with space for storing mineral fertilizers and herbicides at the sovkhoz. A modern vegetable warehouse is needed. It would make it possible to eliminate bottlenecks at the height of the harvest, liberate motor vehicle transport, reduce losses, and preserve output quality. But once again there is a snag: there is no one so start working on it.

But after all, RAPO members include about 10 building-repair organizations, among them mobile mechanized columns of the oblast agro-industrial association and of Trust No 6 of the republic Ministry of Agricultural Construction. However, they are working everywhere except at sovkhozes. Higher organs of these subdivisions at times simply silence their local employees who want to help the countryside: "You are not 'under the thumb' of RAPO there, you have your own tasks." The situation is critical. It seems that the association is not taking full advantage of its given rights here either. After all, according to statute it should examine and ratify plans for contract and construction repair work in all RAPO member organizations. And naturally, correct the partners. Inasmuch as this is not being done, we have to turn to the oblast association for each such incident. We often find support. But do we really have to do that every time?

I am not objecting to V. Levykin's suggestion to have an office at the association which would take over the functions of the one construction client. I am convinced that we need to go further: create a building department, subordinating to it the PMK's [mobile mechanized columns] and other subdivisions which erect rural projects. This will make it possible to eliminate disagreement and contradiction in construction matters. But even now the RAPO, if it will take advantage of the rights given to it, may improve many things.

At our sovkhoz, as I have already said, vegetables take up 800 hectares. Plus potatoes. In short, the arable land is being depleted. We would like a bit more alfalfa. After all, more than 3,000 head of cattle are at the livestock units. Alfalfa is also a good predecessor which restores the fertility of the soil. Nonetheless we cannot increase grass crops. We must fulfill the production plans for vegetables and potatoes. But every year they are higher and more intense.

At the same time some farms are using the land inefficiently. Take the Aksay training farm at the veterinary institute. It has more than 200 hectares of land under irrigation. The yield of feed corn is 70 centners of bulk greens. From every 100 cows they get 54-57 calves. Milk yield from cows per year does not exceed 2,200 kilos. What kind of productivity is this?

A number of other farms whose managers, though members of the association council, are subordinate to "their own" superiors, are in a peculiar situation. Approximately 6,000 hectares of arable land -- a third of the rayon's irrigated land -- is assigned to these farms. These hectares are "working" badly. Sovkhozes which cannot introduce crop rotation because of high plan requirements must make up for shortages in the harvest of output. I am convinced that the agro-industrial association should be the only manager of the land in the rayon. All specialized farms should be obligated to be subordinate to it not formally but in economic terms; they should receive both plans and resources from it.

I cannot fail to mention some other matters too. Today 36 trucks have been allocated to our farms. Eleven of these were allocated without the knowledge of the rayon. How? A sovkhoz manager goes to Alma-Ata. He makes the rounds of the administrative offices and demonstrates that he needs transport more than others. And, believe it or not, he gets his way. The next thing you know, the RAPO gets a call from the capital of the republic. "We allocated a truck to such-and-such a farm. Make out the appropriate papers." Feed for livestock units, which is in short supply, tractors, and other resources are allocated in the same way. Why does the association tolerate higher organizations infringing on its rights and minimizing its role as the administrative organ? After all, resources do not end up where they are needed most and can bring the maximum benefit.

And the association's demands on us, the farm economists, are not very high at the present time. How are investments and profits from sale of output being utilized? What are we doing to reduce its prime cost and how are we incorporating cost accounting? The association is not very interested in these things at the present time.

Many omissions in the activities of our RAPO are related to the weakness of its administrative apparatus. There should be 35 members, but only 25 are working at the present time. There is a shortage of highly qualified specialists, particularly in the areas of planning, supply, and intersectorial links. People come here reluctantly; the pay is lower than at kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

This year turned out to be difficult. There was unprecedented heat in July and August. The thermometer rose above 40 degrees. But a good crop was grown at the sovkhoz. For the first time 25,000 tons of vegetables were sold to the state. There are quite a few reasons for this success. We were allocated additional financial and material resources. We are benefiting considerably from the increase in purchase prices for output. Farm laborers have skillfully utilized the economic aid from the state.

The RAPO also has a role in our success. Unfortunately, an insignificant one at present. But after all, we believe in new management organs and place great hopes on them. And we fully share V. Levykin's opinion: the association can do a great deal. It only has to use the rights granted to it more boldly and actively help farms to strengthen their economics.

12424
CSO: 1800/223

NATIONAL

LOCAL NEWSPAPERS URGED TO EXPOSE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 15 Dec 83 p 1

[Article: "The Effectiveness of the Local Press"]

[Text] The newspaper publishes an article. What is the culmination of its appearance in print, what is its result? Here, of course, much depends on the quality of publication--on its substantiation, timeliness and quality of execution. The June (1983) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee noted that newspaper publication is effective only when attention is concentrated on the main directions of the people's creative activity, when burning topics of the day are raised.

The constant and skillful dissemination of know-how and accounts of the best workers and collectives are an integral function of party journalism and an effective means in the communist education of the working people. The important thing is the degree of informality, vividness and interest with which the newspaper works in this direction and the degree to which the questions it raises truly have generally significant weight. Much depends on the depth of treatment of the topic, on the consistency and systematicness of its presentation.

For the fifth year, BELGORODSKAYA PRAVDA is conducting a wide-ranging discussion of economy and thrift in ever greater breadth and depth. The journalists are directing their efforts not only toward the fight against mismanagement and wastefulness, but are primarily concerned with improving organizational work. We know that delays and red tape in the dissemination of progressive experience also constitute economic losses. During these 5 years, BELGORODSKAYA PRAVDA has repeatedly propagandized the sugar beet cultivation technique developed by F. Yevtushenko, an equipment operator on the Gorkiy Collective Farm in the Valuyskiy Rayon. The newspaper published the opinion of specialists and suggested the solution to organizational questions. Today this technique is applied on almost all oblast farms. In all these years, the newspaper has published the column "We Have Reported on Progressive Know-How. How is It Being Introduced?" In response to a letter from a group of workers published in BELGORODSKAYA PRAVDA under the heading "How We Teach Thriftiness," the party obkom issued a special decree. The newspaper is unquestionably responsible to a considerable degree for the significant reduction in losses in the fields, on the building site, at plants and on farms in Belgorod Oblast in recent years.

Everyone is familiar with Lenin's famous statement that the newspaper is a collective organizer. But this role of organizer is manifested in full measure only if the newspaper does not confine itself to merely stating the facts, but rather has the ability to see the problem behind them and to organize the solution to the problem. For example, SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA YAKUTIYA published two critical readers' letters. One letter asked why stewed fruits, juices and baby food had become scarce in the autonomous republic. The other letter discussed empty containers that were strewn about enterprises, in dockside areas, in factory yards, etc. These facts would appear to be highly specific and unrelated to one another. However the journalist's alert eye detected a direct relationship between them: trade organizations in Central Asia, the Ukraine and central oblasts of Russia [the RSFSR] were willing to ship foodstuffs to the Northerners but were unable to do so due to a lack of containers--the very same containers that lay scattered about. The newspaper announced Operation Container and enlisted the aid of readers, managers and transport workers in the resolution of the problem. The Yakutsk ASSR Council of Ministers examined the question at one of its sittings and ordered all departments, ministries and administrations to return used containers to the steamship company [parokhodstvo] in the shortest possible time. The People's Control Committee and the republic "Komsomol Spotlight" staff placed this decree under their scrutiny. Approximately 50,000 discarded containers have already been put back into circulation

One occasionally hears it said that oblast, kray, city and rayon newspapers can be effective only at the "regional level," that the ministerial and departmental level is the sole prerogative of the central and republic press. Journalists affiliated with RABOCHIY KRAY, a newspaper published in Ivanovo, convincingly prove the opposite in that they unabashedly bring problems that cannot be resolved at the local level to the attention of various levels of authority. The RSFSR Ministry of the Textile Industry, for example, examined an article published in the newspaper on disorders in the production of consumer goods and industrial textiles under the title "Passportless Shops." It not only examined, but also took effective measures.

If it shows the necessary persistence and professionalism, even a rayon newspaper can accomplish a great deal, assuming that it raises problems that are truly important and that it is not guided solely by local interests. Here is just one example. A 500-kilometer sector of the BAM [Baikal-Amur Mainline] attracted the attention of the Zeyskiy Rayon newspaper KOMMUNISTICHESKIY TRUD. From one month to the next, the "TulaBAMstroy" construction and installation administration failed to fulfill its plan. What could a rayon newspaper do about a project that was not even subject to oblast-level authority? But the KOMMUNISTICHESKIY TRUD journalists were sufficiently energetic and persistent. Acting in the spirit of the party, they defended the state's interests and appealed to the Tula Party Obkom. The Obkom turned to the main administration. Effective measures were instituted: the leadership was replaced, more experienced specialists were dispatched and meaningful assistance was rendered. Today "TulaBAMstroy" is close to fulfilling its plan targets.

However, it must also be said that many newspapers are still timid and do not show the necessary persistence in posing questions to leaders of branches of the national economy, various departments, main administrations, and local authorities. It should also be candidly acknowledged that by no means all authorities react properly to pronouncements of the local press evidently in the belief that only signals from the central mass media are deserving of attention. However an item published in a local newspaper is backed by the opinion and authority of the rayon, city or oblast party organization and no one is entitled to ignore them.

Special attention is merited by the question of the efficacy of critical newspaper articles. When preparing such an article, every journalist must be aware that the goal of criticism is to eliminate shortcomings and that the most important element in the critical word is its mobilizing significance rather than superficial scathing remarks that are still frequently found in some articles. "...Criticism in the press is a sharp weapon," stated the June (1983) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, "and it must be wielded skillfully without departing from high principle and objectivity." As a rule a businesslike reaction is generated only by businesslike, constructive criticism. However, not so very rarely (evidently due to the force of habit of some leaders) this reaction is of an openly local nature. Thus, for example, some time ago SOVETSKAYA TATARIYA published the response of V. Gataullin, chief of the Kazan Administration of RSFSR Goskomnefteprodukt [State Committee for the Supply of Petroleum Products], on measures taken to eliminate violations in gasoline trade at the republic's filling stations. While these measures were stern, they were instituted only at enterprises indicated in the newspaper. And a week later, an article appeared in the newspaper on the very same subject: vehicles in practically all Kazan motor pools were being refuelled "by eye" thereby creating conditions for squandering fuel. And after all, the publication of the first article presupposed the establishment of order throughout the entire petroleum products supply system.

Naturally, it is not always possible to resolve a given problem with a single newspaper article. But if journalists are really concerned with the effectiveness of their work, they will invariably monitor the given problem and keep track of its resolution. The article "A Specialist Arrived in the Countryside" published a year ago by OMSKAYA PRAVDA comes to mind. The article explored the reasons why young agronomers and teachers, livestock specialists and economists did not "take root" on the farms in a given rayon. A little later, the newspaper published the party raykom's response regarding projected measures designed to encourage cadres to remain in the countryside. And now OMSKAYA PRAVDA returns to the topic, analyzes the reasons why the decree of the bureau of the rayon committee of the CPSU has not been fulfilled and exposes formalism in the work with young agricultural specialists. The column "Returning to What Has Been Printed" has become a regular feature on this newspaper's pages. In the monthly feature "On the Trail of Earlier Articles," OMSKAYA PRAVDA journalists analyze responses received by the editor and sharply remind those who like to remain silent of the need for a businesslike reaction to criticism.

Naturally, this becomes possible as a result of the attention and support that the party oblast committee continuously devotes to its newspaper. We emphasize once more that this is not a new idea: the enhancement of the newspaper's fighting spirit and the effectiveness of its materials depends in large measure on party committees' attitudes toward them. This specific point was made by the June (1983) Plenum of the CPSU which observed that party committees have the obligation of seeing to it that every serious article finds a lively response and becomes an impetus for improving matters and for reaching new frontiers.

The effectiveness of newspaper articles cannot by any means always be gauged by the specific results of individual publications, by operational actions or even by a campaign. The communist education of people (and this is ultimately the main task of the periodical press) is a complex process that requires the painstaking and purposeful work of newspaper reporters with their readership. This requires that they know their reader, that they become a knowledgeable, intelligent confidant the reader can talk to. The effectiveness of the printed word is directly dependent on the degree to which it penetrates life, the degree of incisiveness and principle with which it analyzes pressing social problems and actively assists in their resolution.

5013
CSO: 1830/202

NATIONAL

SOCIOLOGIST RESPONDS TO CRITICISM OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE JUNE PLENUM

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Dec 83 p 2

[Interview with V. N. Ivanov, director of the Institute of Sociological Research, USSR Academy of Sciences, by SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA: "What Sociologists are Studying"; date and place not given]

[Text] "Dear Editors: I follow your newspaper column 'A Sociologist Studies the Problem' closely. This column's materials are interesting in that they raise, as a rule, the most burning topics of our life requiring serious comprehension by science and experience. It is in that regard that I am writing. As we know, at the June 1983 CPSU Central Committee Plenum the activities of the Institute of Sociological Research of the USSR Academy of Science were subjected to serious criticism. I would like to know what kind of work is being done today by the scientists of this institute and what social problems have been taken for thorough study. A. Korshunkov. Saratov Oblast."

[Question] Vilen Nikolaevich, many of our readers are interested to know what have the scientists concluded from the criticism heard at the June CPSU Central Committee Plenum?

[Answer] In a speech at the June Central Committee Plenum, General Secretary Yu. V. Andropov emphasized: "A radical change is necessary toward the real and practical problems our society faces. Social sciences, to the same extent as natural sciences, must become an effective helper of the party and of all the people in solving these problems." For the Institute of Sociological Research of the USSR Academy of Science, as the country's leading sociological institution, this means the need to concentrate primary attention on studying the urgent social development problems of mature socialism and on making effective, concrete recommendations for its further improvement.

Jointly with representatives of other social sciences, sociologists are called upon to work out such fundamental issues as the mechanics of social laws in

various spheres of our society, the basic patterns of internationalization of public life, the ways of achieving social homogeneity, improving distributive relations, strengthening complete social equality, etc.

We understand that these and other key problems must receive specific interpretation in our research and reach a level of practical recommendations, with regard to which party and state bodies could make well-founded decisions.

[Question] What aspects of the social life of our society are being studied in the institute?

[Answer] Today work is being done on two main research projects, each of which combines closely related subdivisions. The first is "The Social Sphere: Basic Indicators and Trends of Development." The second is "Sociological problems of the Study and Formation of Public Opinion."

[Question] Apparently, each of the projects includes a number of independent research programs. Could you tell us in more detail about the basic directions of the first project--the study of the social sphere?

[Answer] There are seven such basic directions. I will try to describe each of them briefly.

"Development of a Social Structure. Formation of a Classless Society." As we know, the 26th CPSU Congress concluded that the formation of a classless structure of our society, based on all the factors, will take place, already in the stage of developed socialism. In this connection, such problems as the patterns and indicators of the merging of the main classes and social groups of the Soviet society, the mechanisms of intraclass differentiation and the formation of boundary social strata, the national, territorial and community characteristics of social groups require intent study.

"Social Aspects of the Efficiency of Labor and Production." Solution of the urgent problems in this area assumes the further study of social problems of improving the economic organism and the organization of production. Specifically, today we are paying much attention to the study of the social aspects of implementing the Food Program and the activities of agro-industrial association. As you know, in solving the key economic problem in the current stage--a cardinal increase in labor productivity--the worker himself is playing an ever greater role. Today they expect from us (and justifiably so) the elaboration of recommendations for improving the social and psychological climate in labor collectives, the disclosure of the available resources for optimizing the production situation and the strengthening of discipline.

"Social Forecasting, Planning and Management." Here we propose to give consideration, primarily, to working out the urgent problems of social planning, extending the amassed experience of the social planning of enterprises and cities to a higher level: regions and republics. Today it

is necessary to tie social planning more closely to economic planning. This requires creating a system of scientifically sound social indicators and norms, developing an effective method of short-, medium- and long-range prognosis, thoroughly studying the mechanics of social processes and considering them in management practice.

"Social Problems of Education and Communist Indoctrination." In this area, we plan to conduct research on the following topics: the social conditions of forming and developing student abilities, the social and vocational orientation of upperclassmen and ways of improving the teaching process as a mechanism of individual socialization. Questions of combining instruction with productive labor and social problems of vocational and technical instruction requires sociologists' attention. Also, it is necessary to study them from the standpoint of the reform that is in the works for our school. Needless to say, much attention in the institute's activities will be given to the problems of communist indoctrination of youth.

"Everyday Life and the Family. Social Indicators and Trends of Development." In this area, research is concentrated around the following problems: ways of enhancing social intercourse and leisure time, the standards of the socialist community, the struggle with antipodes of communist morality in private life and the efficient use of free time. Much attention will be given to strengthening the family as a social institution and to assistance measures for the young family and for the woman's status in private life and at the factory.

"Social Problems of Public Health and Physical Culture." The basic directions of research here are: health as a factor of a way of life, social aspects of hygiene and disease prevention, ways of disseminating mass physical culture among the population. Clearly the time has come to promote a wide movement for the development and implementation of a nationwide campaign for a healthy population under the motto: "Health and Physical Culture for Everyone." And the sociologist's recommendations will prove to be most welcome.

Finally, "The Demographic Situation. Trends and Prospects." This topic includes the following problems: social factors for optimizing the birthrate, the national, territorial and community characteristics of [these factors] that they bring them into operation, the dynamics of sex and age pattern of various regions of the country, the social and demographic aspects of forming labor resources, the effectiveness of demographic policy, and social aspects of population migration.

[Question] How is it proposed to realize the second project: "Sociological Problems of the Study and Formation of Public Opinion"?

[Answer] As many readers probably know, the All-Union Center for the Study of Public Opinion is presently being created. Our institute also will conduct research in this direction. When the project is completed, information will be obtained about the genuine state of awareness of various social-demographic groups of workers. The comprehensive study of public

opinion will make it possible to determine also the optimum ways of improving counterpropaganda and increasing its scientific validity.

[Question] The results of the research, by all appearances, will be covered in scientific publications?

[Answer] Data obtained in the course of carrying out the projects mentioned will provide an information base for creating theoretical works on Marxist-Leninist sociology and specifically for publishing a scientific and statistical annual publication "Social Development of the USSR" and a series of works under the general title of "Sociological Research in Regions." The results of our research should play a definite role in the preparation of proposals for a new edition of the CPSU Program.

[Question] Recently, a sociological group from your institute that has been collaborating with the editorial staff of SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA for several years completed a phase of research. It concerned readers' mail: who of the readers writes letters to the newspaper and why? Such research is very necessary for us; we want to know our reader as well as we can, his needs and opinions. What does the institute gain from such collaboration?

[Answer] In the future we also intend to work actively with mass media and propaganda. Newspapers, radio and television, in the first place, collect public opinion on important issues of international and domestic life and are its mouthpiece and spokesman. Secondly, they actively shape public opinion. The "reader-newspaper" system and the mechanics of this interrelationship are extremely interesting to sociologists. To say nothing of the fact that the press often acts as a "scout" for social problems, showing sociology where the research should be "addressed."

12567
CSO: 1800/228

NATIONAL

REGULAR SESSION OF JOURNALISTS UNION SECRETARIAT HELD

Moscow ZHURNALIST in Russian No 12, Dec 83 (signed to press 11 Nov 83)
p 29

[Text] A regular session of the Board secretariat of the USSR Union of Journalists was held under the chairmanship of V. Afanasyev. The session approved a plan of action drawn up on the basis of proposals and critical comments by participants at the plenum of the USSR Union of Journalists Board which discussed the work of journalists' organizations in light of the decisions taken by the June (1983) plenum of the CPSU CC and of the theses and judgments that highlight the speech delivered there by the General Secretary of the CPSU CC comrade Yu. V. Andropov. It was decided to convey to the relevant ministries and departments all proposals put before the plenum concerning the training and refresher instruction of journalist cadres, the supply of office equipment to editorial offices and improvements in the publishing field. TASS and Goskomizdat SSSR will be apprised of the criticisms leveled at them by plenum participants.

Republic, kray and oblast journalist organizations were advised to discuss the plenum's directives at meetings of management bureaus as well as in primary organizations, and to draw up a plan of action aimed at their implementation.

After hearing a report by the Creative commission on the development of genres in Soviet journalism the secretariat noted that the commission has of late organized a number of significant measures: all-Union press conferences, creative seminars and leaflets, round-table discussions.

At scientific and practical conferences held in Kiev, Riga and Volgograd the following problems were discussed: the development and interaction of styles, heightening the ideological level, raising the journalists' skill and the effectiveness of press editorials.

Much useful work is being done by the creative sectors of the All-Union commission--reporters, feature writers, feuilletonists.

The secretariat nevertheless noted that the commission does not devote sufficient attention to the work of genre sections on the spot and the problem of cooperation between central and local organs of mass information and propaganda, makes little effort to diversify professional instruction and seldom undertakes reviews of local papers.

The commission was advised to concentrate the bulk of its attention on a thorough and comprehensive study of the development of newspaper styles, especially the lead article, the feature story and the feuilleton, on further raising the professional skill of journalists and improving the quality of creative seminars, conferences and leaflets. The training of journalists must be diversified, on-the-job training must be instituted for feature writers and feuilletonists at the editorial offices of central papers and magazines, radio and TV stations. Unflagging assistance in creative instruction must be rendered to journalists from rayon, city and joint newspapers.

In the interests of training young feature writers the secretariat instructed the Commission for the Development of Genres in Soviet Journalism together with the Commission Responsible for Work With young Journalists and with the primary organizations involved to establish a school for young feature writers at the editorial offices of the newspapers SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA and KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA.

A collection of materials on topical problems in the development of genres in Soviet journalism is to be published jointly with the Council for coordinating the publication of literature about journalism.

The secretariat approved a plan for the economic education of journalists in the 1983/84 academic year on the subject of "Topical problems of economic construction light of the decisions taken by the November (1982) and June (1983) plenums of the CPSU CC."

The results were studied of the International meeting of journalists from the Warsaw Pact countries held in Moscow and the session of the Standing committee of the International Organization of Journalists on research and documentation in the field of journalism which convened in Tashkent.

The secretariat relieved B. Mokrousov, chairman of the Federation of sports journalists, of his duties in connection with his appointment to other work, and approved the nomination of V. Gavrilin, chief editor of the newspaper SOVETSKIY SPORT, to the chairmanship of the federation.

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12258
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NATIONAL

TASS CRITICIZED FOR TARDY, UNINTERESTING NEWS, ERRORS

Moscow ZHURNALIST in Russian No 12, Dec 83 (signed to press 11 Nov 83)
p 50

[Article by V. Pavlovskiy, managing secretary of the rayon newspaper
ZNAMYA LENINA, Krasnoyarsk kray: "What We Expect From TASS"]

[Text] Most readers subscribe to several publications, and what they want to see in their local paper is coverage of local news. All other events that take place beyond the confines of the city and the rayon are reported by oblast and central papers. But does that mean that we, workers of the rayon press, can today dispense with the information we get from TASS? I think not.

We strive to fill most of our paper's space with our own information, but very often without much success. There is only one reason--we are undermanned. Our paper, just as those of neighboring rayons, is perennially short of one or two journalists, which, given our small numbers, represents one-fourth of our creative forces. If anyone goes on vacation or reports sick the situation gets even worse. Thus, information with the TASS byline will continue to be featured.

Year in, year out our newspaper, and neighboring newspapers as well, receive the bulletin "TASS to the rayon leader" and sets of cliches for the rayon press. Ten or so years ago a large part of these materials would have satisfied our paper, but certainly not today.

I honestly confess: most of the TASS copy we get ends up not in the paper, but in the waste basket. Let me explain why. First, we are not happy with the geographic concentration. One gets the impression that TASS correspondents work only in the southern and western republics plus the central rayons. What other explanation is there for the flood of materials about cotton, grape and rice growers and the like? Admittedly, once in a while they slap an additional page into the bulletin--"Across Siberia and the Far East"--, but it is not nearly enough.

Of course, one can understand these TASS workers: in the western regions the farms are solidly established, well equipped and endowed, and to write up their successes is a more reliable assignment and easier too. But we too can point to many useful achievements. And our own Siberian experience suits us better.

To those who would counter with 'You can't expect the bulletin to be entirely devoted to Siberia and the Far East' my answer is 'Why not?' This information would not be distributed over the entire country. Wouldn't it be better to replace one national bulletin with several zonal ones, even if smaller in size? We in Siberia could then run that which is of more interest to our reader, i.e., information about Siberia and the Far East. Its impact would be greater.

Consideration should also be given to reducing the volume of these materials. Today each item averages 60-120 lines. For our small-format paper this is a bit too much. To my mind, TASS should present its materials in more condensed form.

Another TASS service is radiodictation which is broadcast daily. However, we have no people to spare for two-hour vigils at the radio to capture a few grains of information the paper could use. So we report on events which everybody already knows about without our help. Sometimes we dodge the issue by not publishing anything at all, but whether this is the reader's gain or loss is hard to tell. He would surely stand to gain, though, if TASS displayed more promptness in reporting about a past or imminent event.

I would also like to mention another important aspect of relations between TASS and rayon newspapers. All too often the envelopes with the bulletins contain little slips of paper marked "Correction." Correction of a mistake is, of course, a good thing, but many a time the corrections come in after the item is published. We have complete trust in TASS workers, so much so that we do not check out their facts and figures, having neither the manpower nor the time to do it anyway.

Not long ago it was only by pure chance that I avoided a mistake over a TASS Photochronicles photo. I had already dummed the cliche for the newspaper when I happened to take one more look at the caption. To my surprise I saw that the tractor-loader depicted was called a TO-18A frontal forklift in the first paragraph and a D3-133, which is a bulldozer-loader, in the third. Which was correct neither I nor anybody else knew. The cliche had to be taken off the page. And these are not isolated incidents.

Very often the cliches we receive are too big for our paper or sloppily cut, which hurts the issue's outward appearance. Last year I informed TASS Photochronicles about it, but got no reply.

I write all this not to criticize TASS workers for their inattention to the local press. I have but one purpose in mind--to find together an optimal solution to a pressing problem in our collaboration.

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NATIONAL

LEGAL CONCEPT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL COMPETENCE 'IMPERFECTLY DEFINED' IN CODES

Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA ZAKONNOST' in Russian No 11, Nov 83 (signed to press 28 Oct 83) pp 47-49

[Article by I. Bobrova, doctor of medical sciences, professor at VNII [All-Union Science and Research Institute] for General and Forensic Psychiatry imeni V. P. Serbskiy; Yu. Metelitsa, candidate of medical sciences; and S. Shishkov, junior research worker: "On Criteria for Evaluating Mental Impairments Which Preclude a Defendant From Implementing His Right to Legal Defense"]

[Text] The problem of psychic impairments which preclude a defendant from implementing his right to act as his own legal counsel (Art. 22 of the Basic Code of criminal proceedings) has been explored in quite a few papers. However, many of its aspects have not been definitively researched. Among them is one of the most important--the question of universal criteria for evaluating these psychic impairments. The law of criminal judicial procedures and the binding interpretations handed down by the plenum of the USSR Supreme Court contain no direct instructions on the subject. Given the absence of such criteria, investigative and judicial workers evince different approaches to the accused's or defendant's psychic anomalies and to their classification as psychic impairments hampering the realization of his right to a legal defense. Psychiatry experts also experience certain difficulties when asked to determine whether the subject has these impairments.

Attempts by jurists to develop such criteria have been undertaken. Thus, S. Shcherba, for example, proposed that psychic impairments be defined as "such temporary disorder of psychic functions or such chronic emotional illness, mental deficiency or other morbid state which does not rule out the accountability of the accused yet weakens, reduces his cognitive powers or brings about pathological characteristics in the emotional and volitive sphere and therefore impedes the defendant's ability to actively participate in the proceedings and defend his rights on his own."¹

In disagreement with this definition is L. Zahozhiy, who in his criticism of the wording proposed by S. Shcherba, points out that the medical criterion of unaccountability is unacceptable for determining psychic impairments

because the latter by virtue of their specific nature must have their own medical criterion.² L. Zahozhiy does not agree with the relegation of temporary mental disorder into the category of psychic impairments which hamper a defendant's ability to conduct his own legal defense because these impairments are "lingering and not always persistent" psychic disorders. L. Zahozhiy's own definition of psychic impairments in the accused is "lingering disorders of psychic functions characterized by a profound affliction of the psyche that does not preclude criminal responsibility or punishment but reduces the effectiveness of judicial self-defense."³

Nor can the solution proposed by L. Zahozhiy be deemed successful. The basic flaw of both definitions is that they give no answer to the question of precisely what psychic impairments can hamper the defendant's right to singlehandedly implement his right to legal self-defense.

To our mind, in formulating the criteria for evaluating the psychic impairments indicated in Art 22 of the Basic Code one must proceed from a precise understanding of what specific psychic qualities and abilities the defendant must possess in order to defend himself in full measure from the charge brought against him. To be capable of defending himself the accused must possess psychic qualities that allow him to understand the essence of the indictment, his own procedural rights, the meaning and significance of procedural steps in the course of the investigation and the cogency of the evidence thus obtained, as well as to be able to utilize unassisted the means of defense placed at his disposal by the law, in particular--to provide explanations, submit petitions and lodge complaints.

The psychic impairments listed in Art 22 of the Basic Code restrict the defendant's ability to perceive and comprehend circumstances relevant to the case or to utilize procedural means of defense by himself, in other words, they do not deprive him of these capabilities absolutely (or else he would be procedurally incompetent and thus barred from taking part in the trial), but only to a certain degree and to the extent that he cannot implement his right to self-defense "all the way," in full measure. For example, the accused may be aware of the social danger of his action, of its unlawful character and punishability, but at the same time is incapable by virtue of his psychic impairments of clearly understanding why his misdeed falls under this or that article of the Criminal Code and not another, why some aspects of his case are classified as aggravations of responsibility, and the like. Psychic impairments may also limit the defendant's ability to utilize by himself the means of self-defense provided by law. For example, in wanting to file a petition, the accused is unable to formulate in lucidly, to separate the essential from the unimportant, etc.

If the juridical criterion for incompetence consists of two elements--the intellectual (the inability to realize the ramifications of one's actions) and the emotional-volitive (the inability to control them), then to formulate the criteria for assessing a defendant's psychic impairments it is also important that we take into account his mnemonic disorders (deterioration of the ability to memorize that which has been perceived). He cannot realize in full measure his right to a legal defense if he has mnemonic impediment;

which causes him not to remember the circumstances of the incriminating circumstance he is charged with or the specific episodes thereof. It can therefore be said that the psychic impairments named in Art 22 of the Basic Code are impairments that limit the defendant's ability to perceive, understand and retain in the memory the circumstances he must be fully aware of in order to implement his right to legal defense and to utilize independently all legal means of such defense. By analogy with the definitions for incompetence and incapacity, this description of a defendant's psychic impairments should be formally recognized as their legal criterion.

The existence of a juridical criterion that defines these mental characteristics inevitably implies the need for a medical criterion as well, i.e., morbid disorders of psychic functions that may lead to the intellectual, emotional, volitive and mnemonic impediments listed above. The juridical criterion here must necessarily be supplemented by a medical one, as is the case with the phenomenon of incompetence, inasmuch as morbid disorders of psychic functions (the medical criterion) determine the specific psychic "flaws" listed in the juridical criterion of Art. 22 of the Basic Code.

An analysis of the specific character of the symptoms which, to our mind, comprise the juridical criterion enables us to determine the morbid psychic disorders whose presence provides sufficient cause for putting into question the defendant's ability to implement by himself his right to a legal defense.

Consequently, the medical criterion characterizes the clinical aspect and, in generalized form, embraces all possible forms of psychic disorders which by virtue of the intellectual, mnemonic, emotional and volitive impairments that reduce the individual's ability to conduct his own defense.

In our opinion, psychotic impairments may be caused by a number of psychic disorders: mental deficiency of various origins; psychic defects in one form or another that occur during remission of a morbid, for example, schizophrenic, process; a mild residual condition after organic brain damage; psychotic derangement of vascular origin; a specific form of psychopathy; neuroses and various types of ongoing organic brain disease. In other words, the medical criterion, just as in a competence-incompetence decision, may encompass psychotic disorders of the most varied origin, various phases and stages of a number of pathological conditions and mental diseases which all induce psychic disorders that are covered by the above-mentioned juridical (psychological) criterion.

The conclusion to be drawn from all the above-said is that the category of psychic impairments hampering the defendant's right to implement by himself his right to legal self-defense should embrace disorders that, having originated as some morbid and persistent disruption of psychic functions, do not deprive the individual of the capability to realize the ramifications of his actions and to control them, but do limit his ability to correctly perceive, comprehend and remember the circumstances thereof and, consequently, to implement in full measure his right to legal defense to utilize independently the means of defense made available by law.

A detailed definition of psychic impairments that hamper a defendant's ability to implement independently his right to a legal defense and the sanctioning of its criteria by law, or a binding interpretation by the plenum of the USSR Supreme Court are very important for investigative and judicial workers, and psychiatrists and experts alike.

FOOTNOTES

1. S. Shcherba, "Predvaritel'noye sledstviye po delam lits, stradayushchikh fizicheskimi i psikhicheskimi nedostatkami"/Preliminary investigation in cases involving individuals with physical and psychotic impairments/. Synopsis of candidate's dissertation, Saratov, 1979, ppp 7-8.
2. L. Zahozhiy, "Garantiii prava obvinyayemogo na zashchitu pri yego psikhicheskikh nedostatkach" /Guarantees of the right to legal defense by a defendant with psychotic impairments/, SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA ZAKONNOST', 1974, No 9, pp 60-61.
3. Ibid., p 60.

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NATIONAL

SOVIET SOCIOLOGIST DENIES LINK BETWEEN RELIGION AND MORALITY

Kiev SIL'S'KI VISTI in Ukrainian 12 Nov 83 p 2

[Article, published under the heading "Talks on Sociopolitical Topics," by Yu. Tereshchenko, chairman, Department of Social Sciences, Central Institute for Advanced Teacher Training of the UkrSSR Ministry of Education: "Morality: Phony and Genuine Points of Reference"]

[Text] The notion that religion exerts a substantial influence on morality, warns people against and keeps them from vices is rather widespread. Talk with a religious believer, ask him to state on what religious faith is based, and he will inalterably turn the conversation to topics of morality. Not only religious believers assert the moral significance of religion, but sometimes also persons who have only a passing acquaintance with religion. Atheist lecturers are frequently asked questions in which certain members of their audience put forth the thought that weakening of the influence of religion hinders the struggle against various departures from the rules of socialist intercourse.

Such statements are without foundation, because religion detaches morality from socially significant matters; it takes away the purpose and meaning of life and spiritual values of independent significance, for it subordinates them to some spectral "higher" power. Well-reasoned refutation of fables about religion as the foundation of morality and a materialistic explanation of the reasons for religion to attempt to profit from questions of morality, especially in our society, is one of the main tasks of the theory and practice of scientific atheism. Its successful implementation is ensured, as was pointed out at the June (1983) CPSU Central Committee Plenum, by placing emphasis on the significance of the fundamental values of socialism, especially morality.

Marxism-Leninism examines morality not only as a domain of conscience, but also as a practical area, the serving of socially significant causes. Morality, stated V. I. Lenin, is that which helps topple the old exploiter society and to unite all toilers behind the proletariat, which is building a new society of Communists. In other words, morality is an aggregate of standards and principles of conduct which enable people to move forward, to reach the heights of societal development. This statement of the issue makes it possible on the one hand to comprehend the justification of those expenditures of manpower,

time and resources made by the state for the sake of moral indoctrination of the toilers, and on the other hand it enables one to grasp the difference between Communist life-affirming morality and religious morality, which demands one thing of a person -- to serve God for the sake of obtaining "passage" to a mythical world beyond the grave.

Today's theologians can ignore neither the moral grandeur of the building of communism nor facts of transformation of the life-affirming morality of Communists into an effective means of controlling people's behavior, nor the steadily growing significance in one's life of the demands of general morality common to mankind. It is primarily this which is behind the endeavor by theologians to profit on issues of morality, especially on general rules of human behavior.

As we know, universal morality condemns hooliganism, theft, a negligent attitude toward labor, and demands that people be modest, courteous, etc. The points of universal morality constitute a minimum of demands by society on the individual. It is not mere accident that they, these demands, are also reflected in the Bible. Without them religion would be unable to claim the role of adviser in life's various clashes at a common-sense level.

Existence of the demands of universal morality in the moral code of the builder of communism does not give theologians grounds for arguing the primacy of religion in the area of morality, to equate religious and Communist morality. The morality of Communists is universal in form, but profoundly class, party in content. It defends the interests of the most revolutionary worker class, which coincides with the needs and aspirations of working people as a whole, with the necessity of building a society of most humane relations -- communism. Therefore the forming of an active experiential posture, strengthening of im- placability toward evil and the need to combat neutrality toward evil (and religion preaches precisely such neutrality) is the first and most important feature of Communist morality. Other manifestations of this are such demands of Communist morality as the necessity of being dedicated to the cause of communism, to be conscientious about carrying out one's production and civic obligations, and to work persistently to build upon the achievements of the people. Guided by these demands, a person should be concerned not about God but about raising one's general educational and professional level, about assimilating the Marxist-Leninist legacy, which constitutes the theoretical foundation of Communist morality and enables one to apply scientific criteria to evaluation of various phenomena and deeds.

Communist morality demands of a person not only a new attitude toward society as a whole but also toward specific individuals. This demand is realized by such moral principles as collectivism and humanism, which are also not identical in Marxism and religion. The correctness of Marxian teaching on the determining role of the collective cause in man's achieving happiness, which is inconceivable without creating humane relations in society, is universally known; it has been proven by the experience of our country. Consolidation of the Soviet way of life, manifestations of which include collectivism and comradely cohesion, friendship among all this country's nationalities and ethnic groups, which grow stronger day by day -- this is the Communist Party's

practical reply to theologians' lies about the "immutability of morality" and the "persistence of human vices."

Sermons by clergymen on the need to prepare for death from the day one is born can prompt only individualism and selfishness. Another major precept of religion -- to love one another -- also promotes this. According to Christian teaching, one should love one's fellow man not for his hardworking nature or courage, let us say, but primarily for the fact that man is allegedly a result of God's work, that man is made in his image and likeness. Therefore all men are equal before God... in their sins. Such "love of man" is a far throw from a scientific definition of humanism, which affirms dignity and freedom, man's rights and possibilities for comprehensive development and improvement.

"Humanism" in the name of God is often used to substantiate and justify deeds which are incompatible with the demands of morality. "Every man can enter the church," theologians teach, "both good and evil persons. Only those who pray will have salvation." The call to prayer, to repentance, rather than to refrain from immoral deeds is also an evidence of the fact that religion counteracts rather than supports morality.

Another feature of Communist morality which attests to its incompatibility with religion is the demand that man have a new attitude toward himself, that he be honest, truthful, modest, etc. Religion also employs these terms, calling them "foundations of spiritual perfection." In actual practice, however, this "perfection" once again boils down to glorification of God with the requisite concomitant self-humbling of man. Here, for example, is how theologians define meekness and humility: "Meek are those persons who perceive their own spiritual poverty.... In the name of love of God and men, they bear offenses, injustices, and troubles of every kind. They know and believe that evil is an offense, that it does not diminish and does not disappear with mutual offense. Evil is overcome only by patience and meekness...."

Such sermons diminish man's dignity and paralyze his will before injustice. In place of accommodation and servility, which theologians present as a condition for creation of good, Communist morality demands of man demandingness on himself, which should be combined with sensitivity and a benevolent attitude toward other working people. Meek acceptance and servility, for which religion calls, deprives man of the possibility of being fair and just at all times and in all things, and also of being high-principled, straightforward and consistent in his position toward society and those around him.

Nor does religion have anything in common with such demands of Communist morality on man as the demand to be an internationalist, unwaveringly to carry out one's class and general democratic obligations. History contains innumerable instances attesting to the fact that religion has been and continues to be a bulwark of reaction, an opponent of everything progressive and new which is inseparably linked with the triumph of progressive social ideals. Religion inhibits people's social activeness, nurtures and supports nationalistic prejudices, and thus hinders working people from comprehending their class tasks.

We should also mention the church's participation in the struggle for peace, which churchmen claim is evidence of the morality of religion. The Soviet Government understands and applauds statements by religious organizations directed against the arms race, supporting détente and world peace. As part of mankind, over which hangs the threat of annihilation, religious believers and members of the clergy are not indifferent to mankind's concerns and needs. While acknowledging the positive nature of the church's pacifist activities, however, we must not forget that the church claims that the attainment of peace and a healthy world political climate is dependent on God. Hence on the one hand our implacable opposition to religious ideology, and on the other hand our praise for progressive actions by church organizations.

As we see, Communist morality is directed toward man raising his life to a socially significant level. At the same time it is incompatible with the tenets of religion, which sow lack of faith in man's ability to cognize reality and change it for the better.

Defenders of religion, claiming that a positive influence on man's behavior is allegedly characteristic of religion, endeavor to prove that it is not important whence the light of good comes. Such a point of view is tantamount to denying that everything good and moral comes from the people, their experience, customs, and traditions. French philosopher Paul Holbach once wrote that the evil borne by religion is like an ocean, while good is like a drop of water in the sea. Drugs which poison entire nations, he said, do not become better from the fact that they have healed two or three citizens, or from the fact that a few individuals, more intelligent and hearty, ultimately survived rather than succumbing to them. One can reply with the words of that same philosopher to contemporary theologians, who love to compare religion with a lamp: If religion is a torch, it is a murky torch, which forces one to grope one's way, to stumble at every step. If one recommends to people commandments "from God," then like it or not, one must also assume responsibility for the deliberately erroneous idea of the existence of God. A question then arises: just what kind of morality is it which is grounded on deception? Is this not a morality to the standards of which one must adhere under fear of punishment?

It is precisely for these reasons that we atheists disagree with those who claim that religion helps strengthen morality. People need a morality which calls them to action, which teaches them to do good, to stand up for justice. Communist morality is precisely such a morality, which expresses humanism, exalts man as an individual, and encourages man toward comprehensive, harmonious development.

3024
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REGIONAL

IMPROVED LIVING STANDARD IN AZERBAIJAN TOUTED

GF091443 Baku International Service in Azeri 1300 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Unattributed commentary: "Azerbaijan Takes Steps in Confidence"]

[Text] Dear listeners, the Central Statistics Administration in Azerbaijan recently disclosed a report on the realization of the economic and social development plan in our republic. It is common knowledge to many people that the main issue of the present century is the competition between two systems--capitalism and socialism. It is also common knowledge that the main yardstick for comparing and evaluating the two social and economic systems is the standard of living, its development, and the pace of this development. It is due to this that the information disclosed by the Central Statistics Administration in Azerbaijan SSR on the realization of the economic plan last year has aroused considerable interest.

As in every statistical report, this one too contains many figures. They mark a fast development in the economic and social fields in Azerbaijan SSR. Today we shall only discuss figures pointing to the upgrading of the people's welfare. First of all, the national income. Last year, national income increased by 411 million rubles to total 11 billion rubles. But, naturally, an increase in national income does not indicate an upgrading in the welfare of the people. The main factor in that regard is the way the said income is divided.

Let us note within this context that four-fifths of the national income in our country is channelled toward increasing social consumer commodities. Apart from wages, education--which is free for all--and medical services, these commodities [words indistinct] for all the people. These commodities pay for the training of youths and (?pensions) as well as for (?advances) drawn during hard times or under other circumstances. The amount of benefits and other payments the people in our republic had on the basis of social consumer commodities last year totalled 2.69 billion rubles.

As in the case of previous years, education, science and culture were further enhanced last year. Over 2.5 million people registered to study. Over 1.5 million of that figure studied in the general education schools of the Ministry of Education. Studying material in secondary schools are supplied to students free of charge. The network of vocational and technical schools have been further broadened. The state meets all the expenses of students in the schools.

As a result of the wide scope of success achieved in the construction of dwelling quarters, housing conditions for 180,000 people have been improved. In the rural regions of the republic, youth training centers have been set up for 18,200 youths. A number of these have attained schooling age. The rest are younger.

One indication of the rising welfare of the people is the deposits the workers have in banks. For example, the amount of deposits made by workers in Azerbaijan last year increased by 78 million rubles.

We would like to conclude by stating that the economic science applied in the bourgeoisie countries does not indicate a difference between national income's per capita index and standard of living [milli gelirin adam basina gostericileri ve hayat seviyesi arasinda fark goymuyor]. It is possible to learn from statistics that the United States has the number one place in the world with regard to average volume in national income [milli gelirin orta hacmine gore]. However, many people cannot even imagine how little the income of a Central American is. In the United States, the wealth owned by 1 percent of the people is eight times more than that owned by half of the Americans. The proportion in the division of national income in other capitalist countries is approximately the same as in the United States.

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REGIONAL

USSR GERMAN LANGUAGE PAPER ATTACKS SMUGGLING OF RELIGIOUS MATERIALS

Tselinograd FREUNDSCHAFT in German 31 Jan 84 p 4

[Article by Vladimir Gundarev: "Pharisees Dropping Their Masks"]

[Text] Reactionary western propaganda, engaged in a manipulated large-scale ideological war against the USSR, is increasing its attacks upon the policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state regarding religion and the church, unashamed of all sorts of insinuation, disinformation and malicious slander of an allegedly "forceful eradication" of religion in our country, a "forcible atheization" of religion and "religious persecution." Ideological agitation centers and intelligence services, hiding behind the name of God, are engaged in all sorts of provocations and anti-Soviet operations, aiming to make the believers in the Soviet Union hostile to their state and stir up hatred in them for the socialist social order, inciting the believers into conflicts with the power organs of the state.

There are of course no religious concepts that would justify the attempts at violating Soviet laws and damaging the interests of socialist society. Any state would prevent such attempts by means of its legislation. Nor can it be any different. No country in the world will tolerate the violations of its laws and general standards, however much cloaked by religious motives.

The constitution of Japan, e.g., grants freedom "in conformity with the framework or public quiet, order and the citizens' duties." The basic law of Switzerland makes the point that religious views excuse no one from meeting his civic obligations: "The free exercise of religious customs is guaranteed insofar as it does not violate public order and mores." Even the Vatican has passed a declaration on religious freedom which points out that the religious organizations and believers are under the obligation to obey the legal power organs, not to violate the fair demands of public order, with the citizenry having the right to protect itself from any abuse practiced under the pretext of religious liberty.

It is precisely such abuse and such violations the western agitation centers are chiefly banking on. Such a clerical organization hostile to our country is the so-called "Friedensstimme" [Peace Voice] mission founded in 1978 in the FRG. It has already become recognized that this mission is only camouflaging itself with the religious cloak and the name of God. Actually, its activity shows a sharp and pronounced anti-Soviet character and pursues far-reaching political interests having nothing to do with purely religious ones. The real

acts of these "servants of God" of the "Friedensstimme" mission lie in making illegal contacts with antisocial sectarians in our country and the exercise of religious propaganda activity on USSR territory, the gathering of slanderous materials about the situation of the believers in the USSR and the dissemination of such concocted information in the west, the organization of slanderous campaigns abroad and the publication of libelous literature. There are facts enough to unmask the provocations of this agitation center which arrogates to itself the functions of the "representative abroad" of the "Council of the Russian Fraternal Community of the Evangelical League" in the FRG and in Europe.

If according to the Bible God's ways are unfathomable, the ways and deeds of many a "clerical pastor" of the "Friedensstimme" mission are all too obvious. Walter Penner, for instance, one of the chiefs in that mission, who once lived in the town of Makinsk in the Tselinograd region, excelled in extreme religious fanaticism and already in 1973 became a presbyter in the nonregistered congregation of the so-called split off baptists. He emigrated to the FRG in 1975. His hostility to the USSR must have been spotted and appropriately appreciated by FRG intelligence. Thus Penner, who had gone only through seven grades in school, soon became a chief in the "Friedensstimme" mission. Also Penner's relatives Siegfried Penner and Jakob Janzen, who formerly lived in the Kokchetav Region, and Eduard Schulz and Peter Olfert, who had emigrated from Makinsk to the FRG, hold influential positions in that organization.

It should be mentioned that many who were cheated by this mendacious western propaganda and emigrated from the USSR soon became highly disappointed in that highly touted "paradise" and are now applying to return to their homeland. On 22 September 1983, KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA published a conversation with Woldemar Reimer, who had fully "enjoyed the charms of the free world" and now returned with his family from the FRG to his hometown of Issyk in Alma-Ata. In the 2 years of his hassle as an unemployed, that honest person never had a chance, it turned out, to receive the grace of God. But Walter Penner with his anti-Soviet bias and his brothers in the "Friedensstimme" mission did receive their blessings from the "Almighty." That is revealed in Jakob Janzen's confession: "God has done wonderfully by us in that we have settled down so well here. The power organs allowed us to build, along with our church, some 40 private homes, and we have cars and everything else, even though we never particularly sought all that wealth."

That confession, however, stems from evil. God has nothing to do with it. Not for their pious prayer have Penner and his "brothers in Christ" been so much blessed with earthly goods, but for their concrete provocative activity directed against our country.

With regard to that, the following fact: Illegally the "benefactors" of the "Friedensstimme" mission in the FRG sent to the split off baptist congregation in Makinsk, addressed to presbyter Adam Klatt, a package the content of which evidently had nothing to do with the exercise of religious ceremonies. In fact, what connections between religion and god are there with a portable radio and tape recorder of Japanese manufacture with a set of cassettes, a large number of color films of American origin, Japanese current supply parts, batteries,

accumulators of various capacities and loading devices? Is that needed for prayer? What does "God's congregation" need pencils for secret writing for in the form of Japanese felt pencils? All that belongs, as it were, into a different field, into that of special services engaged in agitation against our country.

It may be pointed out that the believers recognized the dangerous character of these provocative "presents from the ecclesiastic pastors" abroad and turned the package over to Soviet authorities (the author of this article had the opportunity to inspect its content).

Walter Penner is unmasking himself completely in the text spoken on the tape that was in the package sent to the presbyter of Adam Klatt's congregation and the other heads of the group in Makinsk. There are quite a number of highfalutin words about god on that tape, but they are only a sort of "ideological backstop" for the concrete instructions and tasks. By seeking to establish illegal contacts with the Makinsk congregation, the gentlemen of the "Friedensstimme" mission seek to recruit their "brothers in Christ" into active collaboration, into collecting slanderous material about "persecuted communities," i.e., into illegal activity. And Walter Penner assigns concrete tasks for what should be photographed, filmed, recorded and sent abroad. Among other things he says: "About the photos and films: we would like to see more families of prisoners, your meetings, youths and those get-togethers you hold in the woods. It would be desirable for you to film prison camps. All that we would consider very valuable. That we could then publish in our brochures, 'Nachrichten von den Feldern der Verfolgung' [News from the Fields of Persecution]. For you to be able to use legal mail channels, I am sending you the felt pencils. I think you know what they are all about and you have been told how to use them (Editorial board: these are the tools for secret writing.). It is therefore necessary that you transmit all important news to us at once and inform us about what is happening where you are."

The agitators in the "Friedensstimme" mission, busy at work to deserve their shekels, seek to induce their "persecuted brothers" to infringe Soviet laws and are provoking them into acts that are criminal offenses. And then they hypocritically comfort them: "If God should bring it about that you have to endure the suffering of and separation from your families and next of kin, you should remain steadfast because God has chosen you to take that course."

And what can one expect, by the way, of Walter Penner and his henchmen when they are proud of their "collaboration" with the declared enemy of the Soviet Union--the notorious Georgi Wins, one of the illegal heads of the initiative baptists? Western propaganda at one time portrayed him as a "martyr to faith," and had spread all over the world the rumor of the brutal punishment he received for his "firm belief in God." But in reality he was hardy. The Kiev regional court found Wins had incited the believers into illegal acts and into violating Soviet laws on religious cults. It was proven that Wins enriched himself from the collections of the trusty faithful, kept his income secret, and evaded his taxes. Georgi Wins' criminal activity had nothing to do with religion. In the end, this "martyr" was evicted from the country.

Now they are making a big deal about this renegade in the west. Now Wins poses before the photo camera next to M. Thatcher, then he gets a reception from the inspirer of the "crusade against communism," R. Reagan. With that kind of a disreputable person "we are working closely together," Jakob Janzen confesses (on the tape referred to). "We keep in frequent contact with Wins and consult with him on the most important instances of our service." That does not refer to religious service, of course, but to the service for the agitation centers. Under their care and supervision, the "Friedensstimme" mission seeks to gain a foothold in other countries as well.

The subversive mission in which Walter Penner and his relatives are active calls itself "Friedensstimme." That is a mystification to deceive the people because the activity of that organization has nothing to do with the search for peace. The instructions on the tape, running for one hour and a half, make no mention at all of peace. On the contrary, all that smooth babble by W. Penner and his accomplices is nothing but a call for hostile activity against our country, a confrontation with the official organs and a direct instigation toward criminal acts. The "Friedensstimme" mission is very generous in that regard. "If you need money for it, it is no problem. We can send it to you at any time," W. Penner assures them.

Yet the heads of this espionage mission intimate that their dirty agitation has run into quite some difficulties. Jakob Janzen elegizes as follows: "Here we are dealing with specific western problems. But there are not as many pious here as you may imagine. Even in the west there are probably not any more faithful children of God than there are in the Soviet Union."

A significant confession! There are not so many simpletons in the FRG then either who would believe the slanderous inventions by "Friedensstimme" of the "persecuted congregations of brothers" and the "martyrs" in the USSR. "We have many enemies here," Janzen confesses. Among these "enemies" is counted the West German pastor Herbert Mochalski, who has said: "Within the last 25 years I have often been in the USSR and could convince myself that the freedom of conscience is a solid component of Soviet democracy." Such utterances hurt the hypocrites of "Friedensstimme" and pull the ground from under the provocateurs.

Who and what are Walter Penner and his henchmen counting on? Unfortunately there still are people who naively swallow the bait of such agitation centers as the "Friedensstimme" mission. The split off baptists congregation in Makinsk is headed by Adam Klatt, born in 1954, who graduated from eighth grade. Another person who plays a leading role in the congregation is Heinrich Hubert. He was the one whom Walter Penner principally addressed in his desire to recruit through the congregation still other believers into illegal assistance for the "Friedensstimme" mission, hostile activity against the USSR and acts in opposition to our laws. But they have come to realize that the acts Penner is suggesting are anti-Soviet in character and that the mission seeks to turn the members of the congregation into agents of mendacious imperialist propaganda. The heads of the sect have stated that portable radios and tape recorders, secret writing devices and everything else in the "package" was intended for subversive purposes and was not necessary at all to "worship God." That is why they resolutely

rejected that "assistance." Adam Klatt has said: "I did not ask for it and I don't need it." Heinrich Hubert interpreted it as a provocation. Heinrich Neufeld, whom the foreign "benefactors" want to advertise as a "martyr to faith," plainly said: "All that has made the members of our congregation highly indignant. All I can say: I don't need it at all. We need no illegal relations with foreign countries."

Walter Penner and his henchmen of the anti-Soviet "Friedensstimme" mission who call themselves true "children of Christ" and camouflage themselves with the name of God, are engaged in dirty business that has nothing in common with religion and are themselves a pliant tool in the hands of the reactionaries of all varieties. They fiercely hate the socialist social order and our state which is engaged in a purposeful struggle for peace all over the world. However much they may lie and cheat, all their efforts are in vain.

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